

Subjects and Predicates

2b. Sentences consist of two basic parts: subjects and predicates.

The **subject** tells whom or what the sentence or clause is about, and the **predicate** tells something about the subject.

SUBJECT

PREDICATE

The police on the island of Tobago / once rode bicycles.

PREDICATE SUBJECT

PREDICATE

Now / the police / ride in air-conditioned sedans.

PREDICATE SUBJECT PREDICATE

When did / this change / take place?

EXERCISE In each sentence below, underline the subject once and the predicate twice.

Example 1. The island of Bequia lies between the islands of Grenada and St. Vincent.

1. Until recently, tourists could reach the tiny island only by boat.
2. The island of Bequia remains relatively untouched by the trappings of modern life.
3. A need for economic growth has led to the construction of an airport.
4. Some islanders are worried about the loss of the old way of life.
5. Six hundred species of butterfly have been recorded on Tobago and Trinidad.
6. The Tobago Forest Preserve has protected much of the island from tourism.
7. About a half mile offshore is beautiful Buccoo Reef.
8. Sun-drenched fishing villages dot the scenic coastline.
9. On Little Tobago Island, eager bird-watchers may spot several kinds of exotic birds.
10. The red-billed tropicbird is one of the magnificent birds inhabiting the forests of Tobago.
11. Many other birds migrate over the area.
12. Different kinds of trees, shrubs, and wildlife are abundant on the islands.
13. Tobagonians share their island with many types of snakes, lizards, and frogs.
14. Different kinds of bats, including the fish-eating bat, inhabit the island.
15. Four types of forests can be found in Tobago.
16. The mangrove forest occupies the wetlands.
17. The coastal edge of the island and the surrounding beaches are home to the littoral woodlands.
18. The seasonal deciduous forest extends to the lower level of the mountain range.
19. The evergreen rain forest covers the top of the mountain range.
20. The streams of Tobago also provide homes to many types of fish and crabs.